



PARTICIPANT *Registration Booklet*



REGISTER ONLINE! www.acis.com/register



Traveling with ACIS

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”

~ MARK TWAIN

TRAVEL IS A THRILL. IT’S AN ADVENTURE. IT’S A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME MEMORY IN THE MAKING.

At ACIS we’ve built our programs so not only will you have an incredible amount of fun, but you’ll also learn. You’ll discover other cultures and you’ll also learn more about your own. Not only will you improve language skills, but you’ll gain the confidence to use them.

Travel has the power to change lives. For something so important, we make sure you’re getting the absolute most out of your time overseas. That means hotels located near the sights you came to see, charming and brilliant tour managers, authentic meals and interactive cultural connections. When you travel on an ACIS program you learn more about the world, and you also learn more about yourself.





What to Expect on Tour

Expect fun, expect adventure, expect to return home with stories you'll be telling family and friends for years. Our tours include the most so that you can maximize your time abroad.

DAILY SCHEDULE, ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS

ACIS tours combine just the right mix of planned educational excursions and free time for exploration. Your daily schedule will vary depending on whether you're on a travel-intensive program or a more leisurely single-city program. Check your tour itinerary for details, but as a general rule you can expect the following:

YOUR TOUR MANAGER

Your tour manager, your bus group leader, is rigorously trained and specially selected to assist your group in having the best tour while overseas. ACIS Tour Managers are comedian-funny, historian-interesting, and secret-agent-cunning. They're part commentator, counselor, troubleshooter, advocate and stopwatch! He or she supervises hotel check-ins, directs the bus driver and leads educational activities.

IN THE CITY

If you're staying in one city for a day or two, the typical day involves sightseeing or a local field trip for half the day, followed by free time for shopping or visiting a sight or museum specific to your group's interests. Many tour managers organize a walking tour or scavenger hunt for part of the free-time period. Evenings are either free to explore the neighborhood by your hotel or include a local activity like a theater performance.

ON THE ROAD

If you're traveling between cities by bus, you'll usually have a rest stop every two to three hours. ACIS uses fast trains for long-distance travel as often as possible, so you'll spend less time traveling and more time sightseeing.

HOTEL

ACIS helps you make the most of your time abroad by only using three- and four-star hotels near the heart of what you came to see. We place a priority on booking hotels in good locations and safe areas, with easy access to both local attractions and public transportation. You will generally stay in hotel rooms with two or three beds.

MEALS

You will enjoy a variety of meals on tour, mixing both native and familiar cuisines depending on your area of travel. Keep an open mind and be willing to sample everything—that's what travel is all about! Most days, you will be served a continental breakfast and dinner at a local restaurant or the restaurant in your hotel. For lunch, do what the locals do; instead of having an expensive restaurant meal, buy fresh ingredients at a local market, then put together a sandwich and have a picnic lunch in a city park.

For details about what is included in your program fee, please see the Terms and Conditions on page 9.



GET CONNECTED

SOCIAL

Travel tips, photos, videos, contests, quotes, inspiring blog articles and more.



TAG ALONG

Get a taste for what's really happening on tour. Browse recent participants' photos and posts by visiting [instagram.com/acistours](https://www.instagram.com/acistours). Then when you travel, tag along with us on Twitter or Instagram, [#acis](https://twitter.com/acistours).

MAKE YOUR DREAM A REALITY

FUNDRAISING SUGGESTIONS

From peer-funding to fair trade partnerships to raffles, to the traditional car wash, find these and many more ways to raise travel funds at www.acis.com/students/fundraising.

TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

Get rewarded for your creative expression and interest in the world. ACIS offers Travel Scholarships in artwork, photography and writing for students aged 11-20. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$2,500! For more information visit www.acis.com/students/scholarships.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Take advantage of free enrollment in an Automatic Payments plan to spread out your payments, have a longer time to pay and avoid possible late fees.

Learn more at www.acis.com/autopay.

THE ACIS REPORT CARD

 **98%** rate overall satisfaction good or excellent.

 **98%** rate our educational content good or excellent.

 **98%** rate our tour managers good or excellent.

Percentages for travel in 2023



Peace of Mind

The safety and security of our participants, before and during their trip, is always our primary concern. Our policies, 24-hour support network and financial stability are designed to afford you the peace of mind required to enjoy every moment of your travels!

HEALTH & SAFETY ON TOUR

Building on our decades-long track record of delivering safe, positive travel experiences, we have prepared extra safety measures throughout the on-tour process to ensure our groups are protected. We've worked with our travel partners and tour managers to revise itineraries and enhance hygiene protocols based on the best expert information currently available. As conditions change, we will follow the science and adjust our response accordingly.

PARTICIPANT PROTECTION

All ACIS participant payments are protected. As part of the AIFS group, we carry a \$50 million general liability insurance policy, as well as a \$1 million indemnity bond with the United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA) as part of their Travelers Assistance Program.

In addition, your program fee includes Basic Protection Plan coverage with the option to upgrade to our Ultimate or Ultimate-Plus Protection Plans. Complete details on all the protection plans may be found on pages 5, 7 and 8.

JOB LOSS PROTECTION

ACIS' Ultimate and Ultimate-Plus Protection Plans offer full cash refunds in the event that you have to cancel your tour due to a job loss in your family. See pages 7-8 for detailed coverage information.

24-HOUR GLOBAL SUPPORT NETWORK

You're never alone when you travel with ACIS. Our extensive overseas network and Emergency Number connect you to an international support network 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

PART OF THE FAMILY

ACIS is the educational travel division of the American Institute For Foreign Study (AIFS). Since 1964, AIFS has been the leading provider of cultural exchange and educational opportunities for more than 1.5 million students.

Contacting ACIS

As you prepare for departure, your group leader is your first point of contact for any questions you may have concerning the details of your trip. In addition, the ACIS website is rich with interesting information that will help you get ready to travel. Plus, you can register online and get up-to-the-minute account information in the My Account section. Your My Account login will be in your welcome letter. Sometimes you may have questions concerning such items as insurance options or your invoice. In these cases, please contact ACIS Traveler Support using the details below:

MAILING ADDRESS: ACIS, 330 Congress Street, Suite 5, Boston, MA 02210

EMAIL: accounts@acis.com • **WEB:** www.acis.com (use our Live Chat tool)

Register for your Tour

1. CHOOSE HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER

The first thing you should do is read this registration booklet carefully. It's filled with a lot of important information related to your trip. Next, you should get your Group #, Departure Date and Program Name from your group leader. You can register for your trip in two ways:

- 1) Online: Register online at www.acis.com/register. Make your initial payment by MasterCard, Visa or through our Automatic Payments Plan.
- 2) Paper: Complete the registration form in the back of this booklet and mail it with your initial payment to ACIS, 330 Congress Street, Suite 5, Boston, MA 02210. We accept checks or money orders made payable to "ACIS." (Do not send cash).

Initial Payment: The minimum payment required to enroll is \$200, or \$500 if registering within 180 days of departure.

Important Notes: **Be sure to write your full name (first, middle and last) and date of birth exactly as they appear on your passport.** If you do not have a passport yet, please list your full name as it appears on your birth certificate. The minimum age for travel with ACIS is 5 years old. ACIS communicates via email to cover invoicing and other important information. **Please provide accurate participant and parent email addresses** during registration so that these vital trip details are not missed.

2. CHOOSE A PROTECTION PLAN

Peace of mind is key—make sure you have the level of protection that's right for you. Your ACIS program fee includes Basic Protection coverage. **ACIS recommends that participants upgrade to our Ultimate or Ultimate-Plus Protection Plans, which offer enhanced on-tour coverage plus the ability to cancel for any reason* and receive a full refund.** For details of plan policies, please see the "Protection Plans" section on page 7 of this booklet.

	INSURANCE COVERAGE	CANCELLATION REFUND POLICY	RATE
ULTIMATE-PLUS PROTECTION PLAN	MOST ENHANCED health coverage, program interruption, baggage delay/loss and travel delay protection while on tour.	MOST ENHANCED cancellation refund policy.** Cancel for any reason and receive a 100% cash refund (less the cost of the protection plan itself).	\$55 per day \$100 surcharge for participants age 66+ Must be selected and paid for no later than 130 days before departure.
ULTIMATE PROTECTION PLAN	ENHANCED health coverage, program interruption, baggage delay/loss and travel delay protection while on tour.	ENHANCED cancellation policy.** Cancel for any reason* and receive a full refund (less the cost of the protection plan itself). Note: Some of your refund will come as a future travel voucher.	\$40 per day \$100 surcharge for participants age 66+ Must be selected and paid for no later than 130 days before departure.
BASIC PROTECTION PLAN	STANDARD health coverage, program interruption, and travel delay protection while on tour. No baggage delay coverage.	STANDARD cancellation policies apply in all cases.	Included in program fee.

Plans must be purchased for the entirety of the tour, including departure and return dates. *Cancel for any fortuitous reason in NY. **For Residents of MN, MO, NY and WA Only: The ACIS Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver can be purchased separately from the overall Travel Protection Plan. Contact ACIS at accounts@acis.com to purchase the Cancellation Fee Waiver separately.

3. IMPORTANT TRAVEL NOTES

YOUR PASSPORT

Passports are required for all international ACIS trips. This is especially important if you need a visa. Contact your local post office or county office for the forms. Passport processing times have increased, so apply for yours today. ACIS will need your passport information up to 6 months in advance to secure bookings such as internal flights, ferries and entrances.

Please note: some countries require that each traveler's passport expires no less than six months after the date of your final day overseas. For more information, visit travel.state.gov.

NON-U.S. CITIZENS—IMPORTANT

Non-U.S. citizens are responsible for obtaining all documents needed to enter the countries to be visited or connected through, and for reentry into the United States. Please consult the consular offices of the countries on your itinerary, as well as the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, for complete information.

VISAS AND LETTERS OF CONSENT

Visas are required for trips to or connecting through several non-European countries. ACIS will follow up with any groups requiring visas to travel. We recommend that all visa applications (along with each traveler's passport) be submitted at least 16 weeks before departure. Letters of consent signed by parents/legal guardians are also required for participants under 18 years of age traveling to certain destinations. Contact your group leader for details.

ADULT TRAVELERS

ACIS tours are designed primarily for students. As such, to cover the cost of increased fees, adult travelers age 21 and older must pay a \$100 surcharge and double or single room accommodation fees as follows: Singles: \$120/night (where available); Doubles: \$75/night. All rooming requests must be received by ACIS 90 days prior to departure and they may not be available on all programs.

Payment Plans

4. CHOOSE A PAYMENT PLAN

You have two ways to pay for your tour:

A) AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS PLAN

We'll divide your total program balance into smaller monthly installments, which will be withdrawn from the checking account you provide. You can track your payments anytime on the My Account section of www.acis.com. Sign up for Automatic Payments by filling in that option on the paper registration form or by selecting that payment method during the online registration process.

Note: The deadline to enroll for Automatic Payments is 101 days prior to your departure date. You will be sent a notification email once your enrollment is confirmed.

B) MANUAL PAYMENTS PLAN

You'll make an initial payment of \$200 upon registration, with a total of \$500 due 180 days prior to departure. If you register within 180 days of departure, your initial payment then becomes \$500. Participants who have not paid \$500 by the 180-day mark will be assessed a \$50 Deposit Late Fee and will be subject to cancellation.

Full payment of your remaining balance is then due 130 days prior to departure.

IMPORTANT PAYMENT INFORMATION

If you do not pay in full by the 130-day mark, you will be assessed a \$200 Full Payment Late Fee.

If you do not pay in full 90 days prior to departure, your reservation will be cancelled as airlines and hotels cannot continue to reserve space.

If you apply within 45 days of the payment deadline, there may not be time to send an invoice prior to the full payment deadline. In order to avoid a late fee, we recommend that you send the full payment with your registration. If you apply after the full payment deadline, be sure to include the full payment of all trip fees with your registration.

Late registrations are subject to availability and must be paid by credit card, cashier's check or money order. We can not accept personal checks within 65 days of departure.

5. CHECK OUT OUR FAQs

You'll find a wealth of information about your upcoming trip at www.acis.com/faqs.

Please Note: All communications from ACIS are sent via email. If you don't receive an initial welcome email from us, please contact accounts@acis.com to confirm your email address.

6. GET READY TO TRAVEL

Now you are ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

Visit www.acis.com for information on what to pack, how much spending money to bring, fundraising suggestions and more.

automatic payments

- THE SIMPLEST WAY TO PAY -

Benefits of Automatic Payments

- It's free.
- Payments are withdrawn automatically – no deadlines to remember or late fees to worry about.
- More time to pay: Final payment can be set for up to 45 days prior to departure compared to 90+ days under our manual plan.

Learn more at www.acis.com/autopay



Protection Plans

ON-TOUR COVERAGE

Your ACIS program fee includes Basic Protection Plan coverage. Health Protection and Travel Delay/Quarantine coverage is underwritten by Crum & Forster SPC under Policy #CC001381 and supported by the Team Assist Plan. Full plan details are available at <https://acis.com/acis-ontour-plan/>.

Coverage	Basic Protection Plan <i>Good</i>	Ultimate Protection Plan <i>Better</i>	Ultimate-Plus Protection Plan <i>Best!</i>
Health Protection Includes 24 hour medical assistance, consultation, monitoring and emergency evacuation where deemed necessary by Team Assist.	Coverage up to \$15,000. \$200 deductible.	Coverage up to \$50,000. No deductible. Team Assist will pay up to \$1,500 for an immediate family member to travel to the trip destination in the event that a participant under age 21 is hospitalized for more than 48 hours or more than 1 week if age 21 or older.	
Trip Interruption Medical and other interruption reasons as stated below.	Up to \$250 toward the cost of a one-way economy ticket to the United States.	Up to \$1,500 toward the cost of a one-way economy ticket to the United States.	
Baggage Delay/Loss	No coverage is included.	If bags are delayed for more than 24 hours on your outbound journey, ACIS will pay \$50 for emergency purposes. If bags are stolen or lost, up to \$1,000 total will be reimbursed if a signed police or airline report accompanies the claim. \$50 deductible applies.	
Travel Delay Protection	If your trip is delayed 12 or more hours, up to \$150 per day of traveling expenses will be reimbursed by Team Assist up to a maximum of \$1,500. Travel Delay Protection coverage also applies if you are forced into medical isolation overseas by a recognized government authority due to having, or being suspected of having, a contagious disease.		
Protection plans must be selected and premiums paid in full in order to be activated.			
ACIS Protection Plans are updated each fall for the following travel year. Once finalized, a Health and Program Cancellation/Interruption Coverage booklet that outlines the specific coverages in place for the upcoming year will be available online.			

CANCELLATION COVERAGE

Cancellation coverage is underwritten by the Zurich American Insurance Company and ACIS.

Full plan details are available at <https://policy.covermore.us/366ZA-0123>. Refund amounts include the cost of overseas health protection.

	Basic Protection Plan	Ultimate Protection Plan	Ultimate-Plus Protection Plan
Refunds when Cancelling for Any Reason			
180+ days prior to departure	All payments less \$200	Full refund less \$200	Full refund less \$200
179-130 days prior to departure	All payments less \$500	Full refund less \$200 ACIS Travel Voucher (and the cost of the protection plan itself)	Full refund (less the cost of the protection plan itself)
129-90 days prior to departure	All payments less \$750	Full refund less \$225 ACIS Travel Voucher (and the cost of the protection plan itself)	
89-65 days prior to departure	All payments less \$1,250	Full refund less \$325 ACIS Travel Voucher (and the cost of the protection plan itself)	
64-30 days prior to departure	All payments less \$2,000	Full refund less \$500 ACIS Travel Voucher (and the cost of the protection plan itself)	
29-4 days prior to departure	No refunds	Full refund less ACIS Travel Voucher for 25% of total payments (and the cost of the protection plan itself)	
Less than 4 days prior to departure	No refunds	No refunds	No refunds
Refunds when Cancelling for Covered Reasons Outlined in Plan Contract			
Any date up to departure	Standard refunds above apply	Full cash refund (less the cost of the protection plan itself)	

Cancellation Coverage Details

The Ultimate-Plus Protection Plan offers a full refund in cash for any reason up to 4 days before departure. Within 4 days of departure until your trip departs, full refunds are only available for medical, job loss and other covered reasons.

The Ultimate Protection Plan offers a full refund up to 4 days before departure as well, but these come in a combination of cash and future travel vouchers (see chart above). For medical, job loss and other covered reasons listed in the policy, refunds will be paid fully in cash at any time until your trip departs.

The Basic Protection Plan is intended to provide core health and travel delay protection on tour and does not offer any special cancellation benefits for medical or job loss-related reasons.

PROVISION OF REFUNDS

All cancellation refunds will be processed and issued by ACIS. Benefits when Cancelling for Any Reason will be paid by ACIS on behalf of Zurich American Insurance Company. The Zurich American Insurance company reimburses ACIS for 75% of the cancellation refund amounts and ACIS covers the remaining amount due. Please note for ACIS to process and issue the refund on behalf of Zurich American Insurance Company, we will need an attestation signed confirming your agreement. Additional documents will be required by Zurich to review claims for those individuals canceling for an insurable reason.

CANCELLATION NOTES

1. If you elect to obtain a refund, that refund shall be ACIS' sole responsibility to participants and parents/legal guardians. **All cancellations must be submitted using our online cancellation form available at [acis.com/cancellationform](https://www.acis.com/cancellationform).** Any refund that you are owed will be sent within 45 days of receipt of your cancellation request.
2. Refund amounts include the cost of overseas health protection. The Ultimate-Plus and Ultimate Protection Plan Fees and any visa fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. Non-refundable fees also include, but are not limited to, ACIS Travel Credit Voucher credits, late fees and cancelled check fees. ACIS Travel Credit Vouchers are transferable, are not redeemable for cash and expire two years from the date of issue. Please contact ACIS for more details.
3. Refunds are not available for missed meals, accommodations, transportation (including flight costs) or activities once the program has started unless you have selected our Ultimate or Ultimate-Plus Protection Plan and encounter a trip interruption or travel delay for a covered reason. Minor alterations in programs will not result in refunds.

REINSTATEMENT FEES

Cancelled participants who request to be reinstated must send full payment, including a \$175 Reinstatement Fee (plus any additional airline charges), in the form of a cashier's check or credit card, along with a written request to be reinstated. Reinstatements are subject to airline and hotel availability.

TRAVEL SECURITY CLAUSE

As part of the Basic Protection Plan provided by ACIS, a group's itinerary may be rerouted or rescheduled at no cost to participants if the U.S. Department of State issues a Level 4 Travel Advisory that Americans should not travel to any country scheduled on the itinerary and the official Level 4 Travel Advisory is in effect within 90 days prior to departure.

ADDITIONAL PLAN INFORMATION

The purchase of these products is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Cover-More Inc with any existing life, health, home and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker. The Ultimate and Ultimate-Plus Insurance products are offered and provided by Cover-More Inc. as made available through Cultural Insurance Services International Inc. ("CISI") for ACIS. The product descriptions provided here are only brief summaries. Coverage and rates may vary by state. The full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, are contained in the insurance Policy. If you have questions about coverage available under our plans, please review the policy or contact Cover-More at 844-282-7856. Cover-More Inc. (CA Agency License #0N13321) is the travel insurance provider. The product is underwritten by Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC # 16535) and claims are administered and paid by Zurich Travel Assist.

Substitution Policy

Substitutions can be made provided that the participant finds a suitable replacement. Substitute participants must forward a completed ACIS registration form together with appropriate payment in accordance with the payment schedule. ACIS must approve the substitute at the time of cancellation. The substituting participant will pay the trip fees applicable at the time of his/her registration on the ACIS program. **Substitutions are not possible within 65 days of departure. Refunds will be made within 45 days of the completed substitution.** Subject to airline and hotel availability; additional fees may apply.

# of days prior to departure	Refund for Withdrawing Participant
90+ days	All payments less \$200*
89 to 65 days	All payments less \$350*
64 days or less	No substitutions possible

* The Ultimate-Plus and Ultimate Protection Plan Fees and any visa fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Terms and Conditions

These Terms and Conditions are valid for all ACIS program registrations after May 10, 2024 and are subject to change with or without notice. However, the applicable Terms and Conditions for your program are those set forth on the ACIS website at www.acis.com/student-resources at the time you register for a program.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM FEE?

Basic Protection Plan coverage. Round-trip air transportation from the designated U.S. departure city. All breakfasts and dinners (except on "Your Way" programs where only breakfasts are provided) unless dine-out options are selected. Lunches aboard cruise ships and in China. Accommodation in double or triple rooms (or quadruple rooms in the U.S.). Service of an ACIS Tour Manager (except on homestays and "Your Way" programs). Tips (except to tour manager and long distance bus drivers). All charges for departure taxes, airport, airline and federal security fees and fuel surcharges.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM FEE?

Non-refundable passport fees. Non-refundable Ultimate or Ultimate-Plus Protection Plan fees. Beverages with meals. Lunches (unless noted in your itinerary). Laundry. Excess baggage charges. Optional excursions. Extensions. Dinners and tour manager on "Your Way" programs. Tips to tour manager, long distance bus driver and cruise ship staff. Expenses incurred during free time periods. Overnight lodging and meals in the United States prior to departure or upon return of the international flight. Non-refundable visa and visa processing costs for destinations which have visa requirements (note: visas and visa processing costs for non-U.S. citizens may be higher). Transportation from participant's home to the airport of departure and back. Weekend surcharge of \$40 (prior to May 16) or \$50 (May 16 onwards) in each direction if the departure or return dates fall on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. All applicable adult surcharges for participants age 21 and over. Airport taxes that are collected on the spot in foreign airports.

CUSTOMIZED PROGRAMS

Due to advance reservation fees related to specific group requests, ACIS reserves the right to change the non-refundable portions of the program fees. Penalties will depend purely on the refund policy of the local operators. Higher initial deposits may also be required in order to hold reservations, which may be non-refundable in the event of a cancellation, notwithstanding and in excess of the standard refund policy contained herein. Your group leader will be responsible for communicating if such a booking pertains to your group. In the case of golf tours, all deposits are non-refundable.

ENROLLMENT DEADLINES/WAITING LIST

Registrations are processed in the ACIS Boston office only upon receipt of a completed and signed registration form together with the appropriate payments. ACIS reserves the right to refuse any registration at its sole discretion including but not limited to when ACIS air or land space is full or after ticketing deadlines. New enrollments are not generally accepted within 65 days of departure. In the unusual circumstance that a new application is accepted within 65 days of departure, full payment plus the appropriate late fee must be paid in the form of a cashier's check, money order or by credit card upon an application for registration, and the participant may be subject to additional air or land surcharges. If an application for registration is not accepted by ACIS, a full refund will be made within 45 days of ACIS' decision not to accept the application for registration. Participants who are placed on a waiting list will receive

notification at least 45 days prior to departure whether they have been accepted off the waiting list and, if not accepted, will receive a full refund.

PAYMENT PROCESSING

When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from the check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check, image or draft transaction. For inquiries, please contact us by any of the methods listed on page 4.

RETURNED CHECKS

ACIS will assess a \$30 Return Check Fee for each returned check.

LATE FEES

Participants who fail to make the appropriate payments or meet payment deadlines will be charged the late fees outlined on page 6. These fees are non-refundable.

CAN I CHANGE MY PASSPORT NAME?

ACIS will assess a \$250 Name Change Fee plus any additional airline charges to all registered participants who request a passport name change within 90 days of departure.

DEPARTING FROM A DIFFERENT U.S. CITY

Participants not originating from the same U.S. departure city as the main group will be required to pay a \$175 Alternate Gateway Fee and will not be guaranteed air routings with the main group. Depending upon their airport arrival time, these participants may not be met at their arrival airport and may have to make their own way to their first hotel. In these cases, ACIS will provide a standard transportation allowance. Participants wishing to fly internationally with the main group must arrange their own transportation to and from the main group's airport.

EXTENDING YOUR STAY

Please confirm the departure date and gateways of your program with your group leader before making your own bookings, as these may be subject to change. In order to return independently from the group, participants must complete an Alternate Return Request Form, indicating a specific alternate return date and city. Participants may return from the city in which their program ends or another major international city. ACIS will invoice participants a \$250 Alternate Return Fee, weekend surcharge (if applicable) and any additional airline charges if this option is selected. Each subsequent change will be \$130 plus applicable fees. Full flight and date details along with the Alternate Return Request Form must be received by ACIS at least 90 days prior to departure. No additional changes can be made within 65 days of departure. Otherwise, if participants wish to alter flight arrangements from scheduled program dates, they must plan to make their own domestic and international flight arrangements. All participants flying independently from the group must make their own ground transportation arrangements to and/or from their departure city and/or arrival airport. Neither ACIS nor the group leader supervising the group is responsible for the participant in any way (including but not limited to safety, travel protection and arrangements and accommodations) when the participant is not part of the program for the main group as scheduled by ACIS. All individual changes proposed by a participant must be submitted to ACIS in writing. The particular airline used shall be determined by ACIS. Confirmation of special flight arrangements is also subject to availability and will normally be made within 45 days of departure. No extensions to your stay may be made at the beginning of your program. Please note: ACIS travel protection begins on the first day of your ACIS program and ends on the last day of your

ACIS program.

BUYING YOUR OWN AIRLINE TICKET

Please confirm with your group leader the correct departure date and gateways of your group before making your own bookings, as these may be subject to change. Travelers may choose to purchase only the land portion of programs traveling to Western Europe, Costa Rica and select other destinations, contact ACIS for more details. Should you choose to purchase only the land portion of program, you must make your own round-trip travel arrangements and join the group in your program at the first hotel accommodation. Neither ACIS nor the group leader is responsible for the participant in any way when the participant is not part of the main group in your program. Participants who change from an ACIS flight to their own transportation (No Airfare, or NAF) or vice versa less than 90 days prior to the scheduled departure date will be charged \$175 plus any additional airline fees for each change. ACIS provides internal flights for NAF participants if included on the itinerary. Notification of such change must be in writing. No change can be made within 65 days of departure.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS, EXTRA DAYS, EXTENSIONS, AND SPECIAL REQUESTS

A minimum of 15 paying participants is required before ACIS will operate optional excursions (based on whole group participation), extra days or extensions offered on selected programs as noted in the individual program itineraries. The deadline to enroll and pay for all optional excursions, extra days and extensions is the full payment deadline listed on page 6. Extra days, extensions, homestay/language courses or special requests are only available when all group members (in groups numbering at least 15) participate. They may not be selected on an individual basis. Cancellation or unavailability of optional excursions, extra days or extensions shall not entitle participants to cancel basic programs. Once paid for by the participant, optional excursions, extra days and extensions are not refundable. Extra days include: hotel accommodations, dinner, transfer to the airport and the services of an ACIS Tour Manager (except on "Your Way" programs). ACIS may offer in its discretion to operate the extra days offered on our itineraries for groups between 10-14 paying passengers for the same price, but in these cases dinner will not be included.

CHANGES IN ITINERARIES AND PROGRAM ASSIGNMENT

ACIS reserves the right to make changes in departure dates, departure cities, itinerary sequence, trip direction, airlines, hotels, optional excursions, activities, ship assignment or cruise ports-of-call. Additional fees may apply if your group agrees to change to a different itinerary proposed by ACIS. On certain dates, especially holidays, some attractions or activities may be closed. ACIS reserves the right to substitute attractions or activities with others of generally similar interest, appeal or value. Such changes are not grounds for withdrawal from the program except as noted under our Cancellation Coverage. ACIS may permanently cancel a specific program up to the day the program is scheduled to begin due to insufficient enrollment, unforeseen operational difficulties, lack of projected availability of itinerary specifics, governmental travel restrictions or warnings, health concerns (including but not limited to pandemics) or any other reason in its sole discretion. If ACIS cancels a program without offering an alternative program and/or alternative dates for the original program, a full refund will be made within 45 days of the cancellation. However, if ACIS offers an alternative program and/or alternative dates for the original program, any cancellation by a participant is subject to our standard cancellation refund policies.

Terms and Conditions

In the event of a cancellation or rescheduling of a program for any other reason, participants are limited to our standard refund policies. By registering for a program, you agree that ACIS shall have no obligation to refund any amounts to you beyond what is required under the Terms and Conditions under any circumstances and upon registration for a program you agree to waive any and all claims for additional refunds or compensation no matter the reason beyond what is stated in the Terms and Conditions.

FINALIZING DEPARTURE DATES

ACIS reserves the right in its sole discretion to reassign participants to another departure date and/or itinerary. ACIS will notify group leaders of their group's exact day of departure, and the group leader, in turn, will be responsible for informing participants.

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

At ACIS' discretion, one of JFK, LaGuardia and Newark airports will typically be used for New York departures and Dulles and National airports will typically be used for Washington D.C. departures. However, ACIS reserves the right to use alternate airports in a city at its discretion. Participants who change departure cities between 90 and 65 days of departure will be charged a minimum of \$175. Notification of such change must be in writing. Changes cannot be made within 65 days of departure. No stopovers in the U.S. are allowed.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

ACIS primarily utilizes regularly scheduled flights. However, equipment, routing and itinerary for particular flights may be modified by the direct air carrier or by ACIS. Single plane service is not guaranteed; alternative aircraft of any carrier may be substituted at any time, and aircraft may make additional stops. Such changes will not create a right to cancellation or refund. On occasion, Geneva, Milan and Nice airports may serve as alternates for each other. Paris and Brussels airports may serve as alternates for each other. ACIS is not responsible for flight delays, missed connecting flights, long layovers or any expenses related to any delays. ACIS books regular economy class seats and is unable to accommodate requests for any type of upgrade due to the terms and limitations of our airline group travel contracts. Participants interested in a seating upgrade will be charged a \$250 Upgrade Fee, plus additional airline charges. These charges may also be subject to different cancellation policies as upgraded tickets are handled outside our group contract and may be non-refundable under airline policies upon purchase.

TICKETS AND FINAL DETAILS

The specific flight itinerary will be made available at least 45 days prior to departure. ACIS cannot guarantee seat assignments prior to departure. Airline ticket information will be sent only if full payment and the signed release from all participants has been received by ACIS. Please note that ACIS only sends travel documents directly to the group leader, to individuals who are traveling from different cities than the rest of the group and to participants registering without a group leader.

LUGGAGE

Due to airline and bus restrictions the limit is 44 lbs. per person, which includes one suitcase and one small carry-on item. Any airline baggage fees are the responsibility of the traveler. Luggage travels at the risk of the participant, and ACIS is not responsible for any delay, loss or damage of or to its contents. Most airlines strictly adhere to a policy of one carry-on bag. Please check with the specific air carrier involved in your program directly for their specific baggage liability limitation. Participants are responsible for any and

all airline luggage fees. Airlines are generally not responsible for any act or event occurring when the participants are not on board their planes or conveyances. The airline regulations and the participant's contract with the airline, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the participant. Any and/or all transportation companies mentioned herein or arranged by ACIS in connection with your program shall have no liability to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers.

TOUR MANAGERS

ACIS groups are generally accompanied by an ACIS Tour Manager. ACIS Tour Managers do not normally accompany groups on homestay/language course extensions and "Your Way" programs. On cruises and programs to Africa, Canada, China, Latin America, the Pacific and the U.S., local representation may be provided instead.

GROUP SIZE

ACIS reserves the right to offer small groups the choice of moving to an alternate itinerary and/or departure date, or in some cases paying a small group surcharge. For custom designed itineraries, ACIS reserves the right to charge a small group surcharge in the event the original projected participant numbers which were provided by the group leader and upon which the itinerary's costing was based are not attained. It is at the group's discretion whether to accept the small group surcharge, modify the itinerary or transfer to a program suggested by ACIS.

ADULT TRAVELERS

In exceptional cases when a double room is not available for those who paid the double room surcharge, a refund of \$75 per night (or \$120 per night for a single, depending on rooming type) will be made by ACIS.

SPORTS TOURS

ACIS will try its best to reschedule games cancelled due to inclement weather, but cannot guarantee it will be possible.

RESTRICTIONS ON ACIS LIABILITY

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Terms & Conditions, you acknowledge and agree that ACIS, its owners, parent entities, subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, agents, employees, the group leader, and host schools, including any person or entity employed or utilized by ACIS or host schools in any foreign country, shall not be liable for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense experienced by you for any reason in connection with ACIS' failure or delay in performing any of its obligations hereunder occurring as a result of events beyond its control, including, without limitation, acts of God, war, terrorism, strikes, lockouts, incidents of politically-motivated violence or sanctions, sickness or quarantine, partner bankruptcies or discontinuance of services, government restrictions or regulations, pandemics, or health concerns. Although ACIS may endeavor to work with customers to minimize any losses, delays or expenses resulting from any such event, ACIS does not guarantee any right to a refund, travel credit, or postponement of travel, except to the extent provided under the Terms and Conditions that apply to your program or the Protection Plan in which you participate. This limitation of liability also pertains to ACIS, absent its own gross negligence, in its use of any vehicle or other method of transport or from ACIS' selection of, or from any act or omission by, any host family, bus or car rental agency, steamship, airline, railroad, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, school, university, or other firm, vendor, agency, company or individual.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Effective date of protection plan coverage is the day you

depart for the ACIS program for which you are registered. Coverage terminates the day you have returned to your arrival city in the United States or at the end of the ACIS program for which you have registered. Please note that the descriptions in the catalog or promotional brochure are sample program descriptions only. Your actual itinerary may be reversed or may vary from the original description. The final itinerary which your group leader receives shortly before departure constitutes the program which will be provided by ACIS. No warranties apply to any program except as expressly stated by ACIS in the Terms and Conditions.

FINANCIAL SECURITY

ACIS shares the coverage available under the USTOA \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program with affiliates of the American Council for International Studies who, as an active member of the USTOA, is required to post \$1 Million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of ACIS customers in the unlikely event of ACIS bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Further, you should understand that the \$1 Million posted by ACIS and shared among its affiliates may be sufficient to provide only a partial recovery of the advance payments received by ACIS. More details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program and a list of affiliates may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 345 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1801, New York, NY, 10001, or by email to information@ustoa.com or by visiting their website at www.USTOA.com.

SPECIAL PROVISION/MEALS

Traveling abroad with ACIS will require the ability to walk certain distances, navigate stairs and transport luggage. Travelers should anticipate encountering natural and architectural barriers outside the United States which ACIS cannot and does not control and for which ACIS cannot provide alternative accommodations. Special meals and/or medical supervision will not be provided by ACIS. Portage is not included on ACIS programs. ACIS offers and provides services on a fair, equitable and nondiscriminatory basis, without consideration of any factor or characteristic prohibited by law and with equal opportunity for all applicants and participants. ACIS complies with all laws prohibiting discrimination.

ALLERGY INFORMATION

We take the risk of allergic reactions seriously. Please inform ACIS and your group leader immediately with any serious allergy concerns. It is important to note, that while we will communicate all allergies that we are expressly told about by a participant to our suppliers, it is not possible to guarantee 100% allergen-free food. So, if your allergies are severe please consider the danger, and traveling on tour will be at your own risk. In all instances the participant shall be responsible for taking precautions against potential allergic reactions, and in no event shall ACIS be liable for any adverse allergic reaction caused suffered by any participant.

© Copyright 2024 by the American Council for International Studies, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced without prior written permission. American Council for International Studies®, ACIS®, the ACIS® logo and Travel Changes Lives are trademarks and/or service marks of ACIS. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. IMPORTANT LEGAL NOTICE: ACIS believes all information to be accurate at the time of publication. However, we reserve the right to make corrections.

Photographers: Julianne Stoker, Andrew Brilliant, Theresa Pittman, Michael Stultz, Tony Yaskulski, Tom Watkins

ACIS Release

- I, the undersigned, whose name and signature appear on the reverse side of this form (and my parent or guardian if I am a minor), a registrant for a program with the American Council for International Studies, Inc. ("ACIS"), the Educational Travel Subsidiary of AIFS, Inc., hereby acknowledge that I have read and agree to the ACIS Terms and Conditions and my itinerary description, as well as those provisions contained in the Release below, and acknowledge that they form part of my agreement with ACIS including sections concerning responsibility, refunds and changes in dates, cities, hotels and prices.
- I/my guardian voluntarily consent(s) to participate in all activities provided and/or organized by ACIS (including the possibility of biking, horseback riding, water-based activities and homestays), and I hereby assume all risks of loss and injury that may be incurred, directly or indirectly, as a result of my participation in any and all activities provided and/or organized by ACIS. I/my guardian also authorize(s) ACIS to arrange for professional care and treatment for myself in case of a medical emergency. I/my guardian agree(s) that if I become ill or incapacitated, ACIS may, without incurring any liability, take such actions as it considers necessary under the circumstances, including securing medical treatment for me and transporting me to the United States all at my own expense. I agree to release ACIS from any liability for the quality and timeliness of any such medical care received or for any expenses incurred. I understand I must adhere to ACIS' Behavior Guidelines (available through my ACIS online account) while traveling and I acknowledge I have read and agree to follow such rules and regulations specified therein. I understand that ACIS will not accept responsibility for travelers not following these rules and regulations, and that I may be sent home at my own expense without benefit of any refund if I do not adhere to ACIS behavior guidelines and standards and the instructions of my group leader. I understand that if I am expelled from school or otherwise disciplined by school or civic authorities, I may be declared ineligible for the program and my participation cancelled, subject to ACIS' stated refund policies.
- I will indemnify ACIS, its owners, parent entities, subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, agents, employees, the group leader, school, school officials, host schools, including any person or entity employed or utilized by ACIS or host schools in any foreign country and hold them harmless for any liability, damages or obligation which I personally incur or sustain, or which I cause or contribute to causing to others, while participating on an ACIS program.
- I understand it is my/my guardians' responsibility to meet the group leader accompanying me on a program with ACIS and satisfy myself/themselves as to the appropriateness of the group leader to meet my needs and I/my guardian will discuss with the group leader any special requirements for me that are requested.
- I understand that ACIS reserves the right to reassign participants to a replacement group leader should the original group leader fail or be unable to participate in the program for any reason.
- I understand that the air carriers' liability for loss or damage to baggage, or for death or injury to person or property, is limited by their tariffs and/or the Warsaw Convention and related agreements. Further, I understand that the air carriers assume no responsibility during such time that I am not on board their aircraft.
- I understand that future ACIS/AIFS advertising and publicity material may include statements made by participants, or their photographs/video footage

(including social media content). I hereby consent to such use of my content, comments or photographic/video likenesses without the need for additional prior approval or consent.

- I understand that I am responsible for exercising caution and common sense at all times to avoid injuries. I understand that ACIS is providing, as part of the program fee, basic protection coverage (see page 7) for my benefit, including limited health, accident and life insurance in the event of injury or illness while on an ACIS program, as well as limited program cancellation or interruption insurance if I fail to participate or am delayed in connection with an ACIS program as a result of certain specified actions or events. I acknowledge that I accept the full description and limitation of this coverage that appears in the protection brochure, a copy of which is available upon request.
- I hereby waive and release ACIS, its owners, parent entities, subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, agents, employees, the group leader, and the host schools, including any person or entity employed or utilized by ACIS or host schools in any foreign country, from all claims of or for liability, injury, loss, damage, accident, or expense in connection with a delay or failure of ACIS to perform its obligations hereunder arising or occurring as a result of events beyond its control, including, without limitation, acts of God, war, terrorism, strikes, lockouts, incidents of politically-motivated violence or sanctions, sickness or quarantine, partner bankruptcies or discontinuance of services, government restrictions or regulations, pandemics, or health concerns. ACIS will not provide any refund, travel credit, or postponement of travel, except to the extent provided under the Terms and Conditions that apply to your program or the Protection Plan in which you participate. This limitation of liability also pertains to ACIS, absent its own gross negligence, in its use of any vehicle other method of transport or from ACIS' selection of, or from any act or omission by, any host family, bus or car rental agency, steamship, airline, railroad, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, school, university, or other firm, vendor, agency, company or individual.
- If my local municipality, school, school board, school administration or similar group is officially sponsoring this program, I will receive written notification of that fact from my local municipality, school, school board, school administration or similar group, together with a statement of any responsibility for the program assumed by that organization. In the absence of such a written notification, I understand that the program is not officially sponsored or supported by my municipality or my school system, although they may, as a courtesy to the teacher involved, allow school or municipal premises or services to be used in connection with planning for the program. Therefore, my local school, school board, school administration, school officials, municipality and municipal officials have no liability or responsibility whatsoever with respect to the programs unless they expressly inform me otherwise in writing, and by going on an ACIS program I expressly release and waive all claims of any type against any or all of the foregoing in any way related to, or arising out of, the program.
- I understand that ACIS reserves the right to make changes to the program and/or program fee as described in the ACIS Terms and Conditions without liability for refund or otherwise.
- I understand that obtaining a passport is my responsibility. If I am not a U.S. citizen, I understand it is my sole responsibility to obtain, in advance, any visas and other documents which may be required to enter or connect

through all the countries on my itinerary and to re-enter the United States. If I have a passport from a country other than the United States, I must contact the local consular offices of the countries I will be visiting to obtain the necessary visas. I acknowledge that such visas are not obtainable on the spot overseas. Whether I am a U.S. citizen or not, ACIS will not be liable and I will hold ACIS harmless in the event I am unable to obtain the necessary documents for participation in the program. I understand that inability to obtain these visas and other documents does not constitute grounds for withdrawal with full refund; if this were to occur, I understand and acknowledge the standard refund policy will apply.

- I understand that ACIS may provide without charge a rerouted or rescheduled itinerary if the U.S. Department of State issues a Level 4 Travel Advisory that Americans should not travel to any country scheduled on the itinerary and the official Level 4 Travel Advisory is in effect within 90 days prior to departure. In all cases ACIS reserves the right to cancel, alter, relocate or postpone programs as it determines necessary without liability.
- I acknowledge, agree to and fully accept the terms of the refund policy as outlined below and in the ACIS Protection Plan Summary, including the following:

If a participant withdraws this many days before departure	The refund consists of all payments LESS:
180+ days	\$200*
179 to 130 days	\$500*
129 to 90 days	\$750*
89 to 65 days	\$1,250*
64 to 30 days	\$2,000*
29 days or less	No Refund

*If the withdrawing participant has paid \$2,000 or less at the time of withdrawal and the withdrawal is fewer than 65 days before departure, there will be no refund. Cancellation/Refund Policies may differ for domestic programs; contact ACIS for more details.

- I understand that the above chart is the Basic Protection Plan cancellation/refund policy of ACIS and that participants may have purchased an upgraded plan.
 - I understand that all refund requests must be in writing to the ACIS office or via email from an email address associated with the account of an adult traveler or guardian of the student traveler.
- I understand that teachers who travel with their students will receive complimentary benefits from ACIS or its affiliates as compensation for chaperoning, preparation and organization of the educational travel program.
 - I agree that any and all disputes with ACIS will be submitted to binding arbitration, to be conducted substantially in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. Unless ACIS agrees to a different location, the arbitration shall be conducted in Suffolk County, Massachusetts. I agree that if I do not substantially prevail in the arbitration, I will be responsible for ACIS' expenses, including lawyers' fees, incurred by ACIS in participating in the arbitration. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and non-appealable. I understand that by signing this agreement, I am giving up my right to have any claim against ACIS decided in a municipal, state or federal court before a judge or jury.
 - This agreement shall become effective when my application is accepted by ACIS and shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This agreement cannot be modified except in writing by ACIS.



28132

ACIS Registration Form

Office Use Only

Please use blue or black ink, print in CAPITAL LETTERS and fill in circles completely (ex: ●). Do not staple anything to this form. Please return this form to: ACIS, 330 Congress Street, Suite 5, Boston, MA 02210

Program Selection

Group Leader's Last Name

Group #

Departure Date (MM/DD/YYYY) / /

Program Name

Participant Information:

Last Name (Print all of your information exactly as it appears on your passport and/or birth certificate.)

First Name

Middle Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Mobile Telephone - -

Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY / /

Sex: M F

Participant Email

Billing/Permissions Contact Info: Required for participants under 21 years of age.

Parent/Guardian First and Last Name

Mobile Telephone - -

Email

Emergency Contact Info: Required for all participants.

First and Last Name (of someone not traveling with you)

Relationship

Home Telephone - -

Mobile Telephone - -

Rooming and Additional Options: Please fill in all that apply.

(Both participants must pay a surcharge to guarantee a twin or double room)

- I would like to pay for a rooming upgrade: double twin single with: _____
- I will book my own round-trip air transportation. (I will meet the group at the first hotel.)
- I would like to extend my stay after the trip. (A form will be sent to you about alternate returns.)
- I would like ACIS to book me from a DIFFERENT U.S. departure city than that of my group: _____

Protection Plans: Please see page 5 or www.acis.com/studentsparents/insurance for more information.

- I select the Ultimate-Plus Protection Plan (with extra health protection and full cancel-for-any-reason coverage)
- I select the Ultimate Protection Plan (with extra health protection and limited cancel-for-any-reason coverage)
- I decline additional coverage at this time.

Payment: Please pay via check or money order made payable to ACIS.

Minimum Payment: \$200, or \$500 if registering within 180 days of departure.

Amount Enclosed \$.

Select your preferred Payment Plan (See page 6 for full details):

- Automatic** – Pay in monthly installments up to 45 days pre-departure, deducted from the attached checking account.
- Manual** – Pay a deposit now, with a total of \$500 due within 180 days of departure. Full balance due 130 days pre-departure. Late fees apply.

Signatures

I have read the attached ACIS Terms and Conditions and the ACIS Release and agree to be bound thereby, **and agree to be responsible for all amounts owed ACIS.** I am in good physical and mental health and am able to travel without special medical supervision or special counseling.

Signature of Registrant

Date

All registrants under 21 years of age must have the following section completed: I am the parent/legal guardian of the above minor registrant. I have read the ACIS Terms and Conditions and the ACIS Release, and agree to be bound thereby, and agree to be responsible for all amounts owed ACIS by the minor and any other actions by the minor on the ACIS trip. I hereby consent to the above minor registrant's participation in all activities organized and/or provided by ACIS. I hereby assume all risks of loss and injury that may be incurred, directly or indirectly, as a result of any such participation and authorize ACIS to arrange for professional care/treatment in case of an emergency.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Print Name

Date